

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the instant invention over the prior art, and claim 16 has been amended to overcome the Examiners §112 rejection. No new matter has been entered by any of these amendments.

Turning to the rejection of claims 15-19 under 35 USC §112 as being indefinite, claim 16 has been amended to specify that the contact is provided for engaging “the jack contact of the plug-in jack according to claim 1.” Thus, it is believed the Examiner’s rejection as to claim 16, and all claims dependent therefrom, has been overcome.

As for the rejection of claims 15 and 17 under §112, and with reference to the Advisory Action, the term “SMT” as used in the specification refers to “portions capable of being mounted on a surface”. See specification, page 1, lines 24-26. See also page 4, lines 7-10, and page 6, lines 26-27. Moreover, the term “SMT” is an acronym well known in the art, i.e., for “surface mount technology.” See, for example, European Patent Application 544076 (at page 3, line 34), European Patent Application 1327466 (at col. 10, lines 39-40), and European Patent Application 1317991 (at page 2, lines 17-18), all of which disclose the acronym “SMT” as meaning surface mount technology (copies enclosed as **Exhibit A**). Furthermore, the Printed Circuit Handbook, Third Edition, written by Clyde F. Coombs, Jr., includes an entire chapter on surface mount technology, or SMT. A copy of said chapter is included with this Amendment as **Exhibit B**. A check of the USPTO Patent Full Text and Image Database lists 79 US Patents with the term “SMT” in the claims. A copy of a printout listing the 79 Patents is enclosed as **Exhibit C**. Notwithstanding the foregoing, claims 15 and 17 have been amended to specifically recite “Surface Mount Technology.” No new matter has been entered. Therefore, it is respectfully

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requested that the Examiner's §112 rejection regarding the "vague and ambiguous" term "SMT connection" be withdrawn.

Turning to the rejection of claims 1-4, 15-17 under 35 USC §103 as obvious over Jawelak (US Patent No. 3,867,602) in view of Evans (US Patent No. 4,002,400), claim 1 has been amended to specify that the jack is "capable of longitudinal movement." As discussed with the Examiner via a telephone interview on July 9, 2003, elements 38 in Jawelak merely pivot in groove 30 and do not slide longitudinally (FIGS. 1 and 3), whereas in Applicant's invention groove 22 allows for longitudinal of hook 40 of jack 18 in the groove. Thus, it is believed that the Examiner's rejection of claim 1, and all claims dependent therefrom, can no longer be maintained.

Having dealt with all the objections raised by the Examiner, the Application is believed to be in order for allowance.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to MAIL STOP RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 26, 2003, at Tucson, Arizona.

By 

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